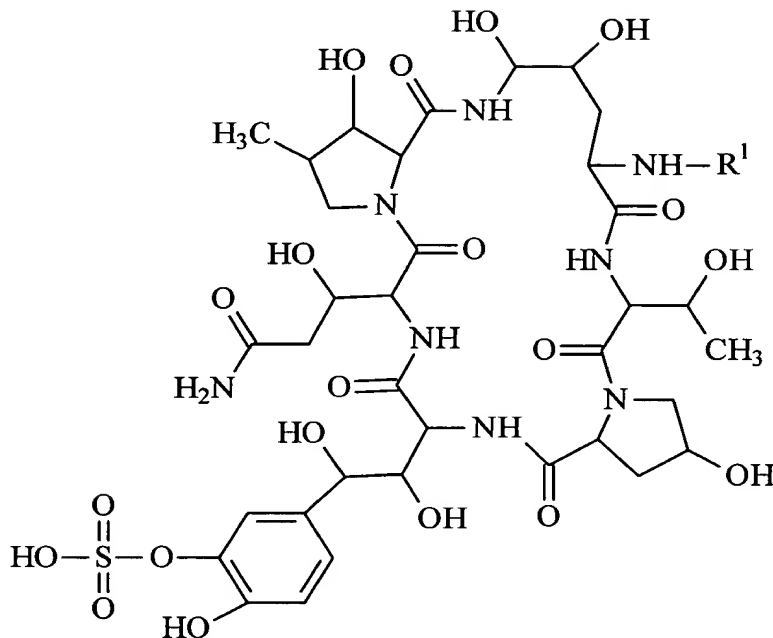


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cont.



wherein R<sup>1</sup> is defined above, or a salt thereof --

Please cancel Claims 17 and 18, without prejudice.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 19 are active in this application.

Applicants submit herewith two Rule 132 Declarations showing that representative compounds in Claim 1 (amended) display superior antimicrobial activity, in terms of the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) test, compared to Compounds A and B in the prior art, U.S. 5,376,634. Accordingly, the present invention is patentable over the closest prior art compounds. For easy reference, the example numbers of the compounds tested in the Ikeda Declaration are written by hand next to the relevant claim limitations (see Attachment).

Applicants submit that the case is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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